

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. Any difference between the claims below and the prior state of the claims is unintentional and in the nature of a typographical error.

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

a memory operable to store information identifying a plurality of facilities in a complex, each facility associated with a construction project, wherein the complex comprises a church and at least one of the facilities comprises an auditorium in the church; and

a processor configured to perform the steps of:

determining a potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities;

determining a cost associated with at least one of the facilities; and

generating a schedule of the construction projects using the determined potential revenue and the determined cost;

wherein determining the potential revenue comprises:

estimating future growth in a number of people attending church services at the church, wherein the future growth is determined using at least one growth estimate, wherein the growth estimate uses a past growth rate of the church and a potential growth rate of the church; and

estimating an amount of donations given to the church during a future time period, wherein the estimated amount of donations is based at least in part on the estimated future growth in the number of people attending the church services; and

wherein the processor is configured to output the results of the previous steps onto a computer readable medium.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein determining the cost associated with at least one of the facilities comprises:

identifying a size of at least one of the facilities based on the estimated future growth in attendance; and

determining a cost of at least one of the construction projects based on the identified size.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 3, wherein identifying the size of the at least one facility comprises identifying a plurality of sizes for the at least one facility.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein identifying the plurality of facilities comprises receiving an identification of the facilities from a user.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein generating the schedule comprises, for each construction project, receiving from a user an identification of one of a plurality of phases during which the construction project would occur.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 6, further comprising identifying a cost of each phase; and

wherein the estimated amount of donations is determined based at least in part on completion of one or more of the each phase[[s]].

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein determining the potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities comprises identifying potential donations to be received during one or more fund-raising campaigns.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 8, further comprising:
identifying an amount of borrowing needed to pay for the construction projects; and
identifying an amount of debt to be paid off each year.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
receiving alterations of data used to generate the schedule from a user; and
showing the user in real time how altered data affects the schedule.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a constraint on data used to generate the schedule from a user; and
showing the user in real time how the constraint affects the schedule.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the estimated amount of donations is determined using a factor defining a rate at which at least one of a plurality of newer members of the church generally donate compared to at least one of a plurality of older members of the church.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the determined potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities and the determined cost associated with at least one of the facilities are used to estimate a cash flow, the cash flow used to generate the schedule.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the determined cost associated with at least one of the facilities comprises at least one of operating costs, general and administrative expenses, construction costs, and staffing costs associated with at least one of the facilities.

15. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a memory operable to store information identifying a plurality of facilities in a complex, each facility associated with a construction project, wherein the complex comprises a church and at least one of the facilities comprises an auditorium in the church; and

one or more processors collectively operable to:

determine a potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities;

determine a cost associated with at least one of the facilities; and

generate a schedule of the construction projects using the determined potential revenue and the determined cost;

wherein the one or more processors are collectively operable to determine the potential revenue by:

estimating future growth in a number of people attending church services at the church, wherein the future growth is determined using at least one growth estimate, wherein the growth estimates use a past growth rate of the church and a potential growth rate of the church; and

estimating an amount of donations given to the church during a future time period, wherein the estimated amount of donations is based at least in part on the estimated future growth in the number of people attending the church services.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 15, wherein:

the one or more processors are collectively operable to determine the cost associated with at least one of the facilities by:

identifying a size of at least one of the facilities based on the estimated future growth in; and

determining the cost associated with at least one of the facilities based on the identified size.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 15, wherein the one or more processors are collectively operable to generate the schedule by:

for each construction project, receiving from a user an identification of one of a plurality of phases during which the construction project would occur; and

identifying a cost of each phase;

wherein the estimated amount of donations is determined based at least in part on completion of ~~one or more of the~~ each phase[[s]].

18. (Original) The system of Claim 15, wherein:

the one or more processors are collectively operable to determine the potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities by identifying potential donations to be received during one or more fund-raising campaigns; and

the one or more processors are further collectively operable to:

identify an amount of borrowing needed to pay for the construction projects; and
identify an amount of debt to be paid off each year.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 15, wherein the one or more processors are further collectively operable to:

receive alterations of data used to generate the schedule from a user; and
show the user in real time how the altered data affects the schedule.

20. (Original) The system of Claim 15, wherein the potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities and the identified cost associated with at least one of the facilities are used to estimate a cash flow, the cash flow used to generate the schedule.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 15, wherein the identified cost associated with at least one of the facilities comprises at least one of operating costs, general and administrative expenses, construction costs, and staffing costs associated with at least one of the facilities.

22. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a memory operable to store information identifying a plurality of facilities in a complex, each facility associated with a construction project, wherein the complex comprises a church and at least one of the facilities comprises an auditorium in the church; and

an analysis module operable to:

determine a potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities;

determine a cost associated with at least one of the facilities;

generate a schedule of the construction projects using the determined potential revenue and the determined cost;

wherein the analysis module is operable to determine the potential revenue by:

estimating future growth in a number of people attending church services at the church, wherein the future growth is determined using at least one growth estimate, wherein the growth estimate uses a past growth rate of the church and a potential growth rate of the church; and

estimating an amount of donations given to the church during a future time period, wherein the estimated amount of donations is based at least in part on the estimated future growth in the number of people attending the church services.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 22, further comprising:

a constraints module operable to receive a constraint on data used to generate the schedule from a user; and

an optimization module operable to show the user in real time how the constraint affects the schedule.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium, the computer program comprising:

computer readable program code for identifying a plurality of facilities in a complex, each facility associated with a construction project, wherein the complex comprises a church and at least one of the facilities comprises an auditorium in the church;

computer readable program code for determining a potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities;

computer readable program code for determining a cost associated with at least one of the facilities; and

computer readable program code for generating a schedule of the construction projects using the determined potential revenue and the determined cost;

wherein the computer readable program code for determining the potential revenue comprises:

computer readable program code for estimating future growth in a number of people attending church services at the church, wherein the future growth is determined using at least one growth estimate, wherein the growth estimate uses a past growth rate of the church and a potential growth rate of the church; and

computer readable program code for estimating an amount of donations given to the church during a future time period, wherein the estimated amount of donations is based at least in part on the estimated future growth in the number of people attending the church services.

25. (Cancelled).

26. (Previously Presented) The computer program of Claim 24, wherein the computer readable program code for determining the cost associated with at least one of the facilities comprises:

computer readable program code for identifying a size of at least one of the facilities based on the estimated future growth in attendance; and

computer readable program code for determining the cost of at least one of the construction projects based on the identified size.

27. (Currently Amended) The computer program of Claim 24, wherein the computer readable program code for generating the schedule comprises:

computer readable program code for receiving from a user, for each construction project, an identification of one of a plurality of phases during which the construction project would occur; and

computer readable program code for identifying a cost of each phase;

wherein the estimated amount of donations is determined based at least in part on completion of ~~one or more of the~~ each phase[[s]].

28. (Original) The computer program of Claim 24, wherein:

the computer readable program code for determining the potential revenue comprises computer readable program code for identifying potential donations to be received during one or more fund-raising campaigns; and

the computer program further comprises:

computer readable program code for identifying an amount of borrowing needed to pay for the construction projects; and

computer readable program code for identifying an amount of debt to be paid off each year.

29. (Previously Presented) The computer program of Claim 24, wherein the computer program further comprises:

computer readable program code for receiving alterations of data used to generate the schedule from a user; and

computer readable program code for showing the user in real time how the altered data affects the schedule.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer program of Claim 24, wherein the determined potential revenue associated with at least one of the facilities and the determined cost associated with at least one of the facilities are used to estimate a cash flow, the cash flow used to generate the schedule.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer program of Claim 24, wherein the determined cost associated with at least one of the facilities comprises at least one of operating costs, general and administrative expenses, construction costs, and staffing costs associated with at least one of the facilities.

32. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 22, wherein the estimated amount of donations is determined using a factor defining a rate at which at least one of a plurality of newer members of the church generally donate compared to at least one of a plurality of older members of the church.

33. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 15, wherein the estimated amount of donations is determined using a factor defining a rate at which at least one of a plurality of newer members of the church generally donate compared to at least one of a plurality of older members of the church.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6, wherein estimating the future growth in the number of people attending the church services comprises: limiting a future growth prediction to no more than a specified percentage during a portion of one or more of the phases; and enforcing a different maximum growth rate for the future growth prediction during other times.